

than 3 years of a preemptive war that now the President charges was about democratization.

The real rationale for going to war in Iraq is much more sinister and much more dangerous to our long-term foreign policy. It has become clear that the U.S. needs to end the war in Iraq and bring our troops home. Our soldiers need this, their families and loved ones back home need this, and of course the Iraqi people need this. But in order to truly end the occupation, we need to leave no lasting American presence in our place. That means no coalition footprint, nothing even close. That means bringing our troops home and giving Iraq back to the Iraqis.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SODREL). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING RALPH HAUENSTEIN, MEMBERS OF THE HOPE COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM AND COLONEL JOSEPH MAZUREK

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to use my 5 minutes now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

HONORING RALPH HAUENSTEIN

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ralph Hauenstein.

Mr. Hauenstein rose to the rank of colonel while serving in the U.S. Army during World Wars I and II and was appointed Chief of the Intelligence Branch in the Army's European Theater of Operations under General Dwight Eisenhower.

Mr. Hauenstein was later selected to serve as a consultant on the President's Advisory Commission during the Eisenhower administration. He served as a member of the team that supervised the first free elections in Russia and served as an auditor for the Second Vatican Council in Rome.

At 93 years old, he continues his career of public service and has significantly impacted west Michigan through his charitable donations and tireless involvement in his community.

His generosity made possible the founding of the Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. The Center encourages students to emulate his career by aspiring to achieve leadership positions and committing to public service. It fosters discussion by stu-

dents, government officials and the public about the role of the U.S. presidency in domestic and world affairs.

Mr. Speaker, please let it be known that on this 6th day of April, 2006, that the U.S. House of Representatives acknowledges the vision, contributions and achievements of Mr. Hauenstein as he continues to serve his country and community.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE HOPE COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of the Hope College women's basketball team on winning the 2006 NCAA Division III national championship.

On March 18, Hope defeated Southern Maine University 69-56 in the national championship game held in Springfield, Massachusetts. More than 500 Hope College students, alumni, faculty and fans were present at the Final Four tournament. With the win, Hope became Michigan's first women's basketball team to win more than one championship in any NCAA division. The college won its first title in 1990.

Hope played all six tournament games on the road. The team finished the season with an NCAA Division III women's basketball record of 33-1 after defeating the top four teams in the Nation.

Senior guard Bria Ebels of Holland, Michigan, was voted the most outstanding player at the tournament and a Division III All-American. Coach Brian Morehouse was chosen as the NCAA Division III National Coach of the Year by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association of America.

Mr. Speaker, please let it be known that on this 6th day of April, 2006, that the U.S. House of Representatives acknowledges the achievements of the 2006 Hope College women's basketball team and wishes its members the best of luck in the future.

HONORING COLONEL JOSEPH MAZUREK

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Joseph Mazurek as he approaches his July 1, 2006, retirement from the United States Army Reserve.

Mr. Mazurek joined the Western Michigan University ROTC program in the fall of 1972. He graduated from the ROTC Advanced Camp and the Army Paratrooper School in 1975. He served 2 years of active duty and became an Assistant Adjutant before being assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve. Since 1978, he has served in a wide variety of Reserve assignments at locations throughout the United States.

Colonel Mazurek continued to be promoted, and in 1992 he achieved the rank of Full Colonel. He has been called up for active duty three times since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom as Deputy and Acting Adjutant General for Fort Hood, Texas.

Colonel Mazurek has had a long and successful career serving in the United States Army Reserve. Since April of 1978, he has served the Admissions Department of the U.S. Military Academy

at West Point and has assisted numerous Michigan young people in gaining appointments to West Point. He has also served on the advisory committee for the Second Congressional District for young people to be appointed to the various military academies.

Mr. Speaker, please let it be known on this 6th day of April, 2006, that the U.S. House of Representatives acknowledges the 30 years of service of Colonel Mazurek and wishes him well upon his retirement.

REPOCRACY—A NEW FORM OF GOVERNMENT IN AMERICA

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority in the House of Representatives has quietly ushered in a new form of government in America called Repocracy.

For those who believe that democracy is government of the people, by the people and for the people, Repocracy is absolutely the opposite of that. Repocracy is a government where open debate is replaced by lockstep discipline and where the rewards of the few become the burdens carried on the backs of the many.

Repocracy puts a price on American values and deals only in hard cash. You only have to watch C-SPAN to know what the real threat Repocracy poses.

For the last 6 years, the Republican Party has been a disciplined, monotone political machine. Republicans live by one rule; whatever the President wants, the President gets. War in Iraq, rubber stamp approval. Tax holidays for America's rich, rubber stamp approval. Slashing student loans, rubber stamp approval. Cutting programs for America's vulnerable children and disadvantaged families, rubber stamp approval. Legislation written by financial institutions and big drug companies, rubber stamp approval.

It was all so neat and tidy. Republican Members of the House voted the way they were told and leaders would not end voting in the House until their predetermined outcome was achieved.

But that was last year. What has changed? The American people noticed. The American people put a lot of faith and trust in their leaders. For better or for worse, most Americans take the big picture approach: Trust elected officials until they betray that trust. Believe that elected officials will put America's interests ahead of political interests. Have faith that your leaders will change course when something is truly not working. In other words, trust, but verify.